

Director, J.B. Taylor Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Alabama Veterinary Diagnostic Lab System

## Description

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Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries is seeking qualified applicants for Director of J.B. Taylor Diagnostic Laboratory in Elba, Alabama.

J.B. Taylor Diagnostic Lab is a satellite branch laboratory within the Alabama Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (AVDL) system. Elba is located in rural southeastern Alabama (Coffee County), within a few hours of the beaches of the Gulf Coast, and 38 miles from the Florida State Line.

Thompson Bishop Sparks State Diagnostic Lab is the central reference laboratory in a state animal diagnostic laboratory system that includes branch labs in in Boaz, Elba, and Hanceville. Laboratories provide animal disease diagnostic and regulatory testing for the commercial poultry industry, private owners, and submitting veterinarians.

**Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program:** J.B. Taylor Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory is a 2021 designated Veterinarian Shortage Situation by the United States Department Of Agriculture, authorized by the National Veterinary Medical Services Act (NVMSA) to help qualified veterinarians offset a significant portion of the debt incurred in pursuit of their veterinary medicine degrees in return for their service in certain high-priority veterinary shortage situations. [VMLRP General Information | National Institute of Food and Agriculture \(usda.gov\)](#)

**Position Description:** Responsibilities include performing necropsy examinations, supervising bacteriology and poultry serology testing, client communications, and general administrative duties to ensure laboratory operations follow requirements to maintain certification by the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). Laboratory caseload submissions are primarily cattle, commercial and backyard poultry, small ruminants, white-tailed deer, horses, and small animals.

**Requirements:** Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from an AVMA recognized school or college of veterinary medicine, eligibility for licensure as a registered veterinarian by the Alabama Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, and U.S. citizenship status.

**Salary:** Starting salary will be commensurate with professional credentials, experience, and an approved level of entry for classification within the State Personnel system. Benefits include low-cost single coverage for health/vision/dental insurance with optional family health coverage, paid thirteen paid holidays per year, accrue thirteen annual leave and sick days each per year, flexible employee benefit plans, and retirement plans to include optional deferred compensation plans.

Inquiries should be addressed to: Dr. Heather Walz, Director, Thompson Bishop Sparks State Diagnostic Lab, Auburn, AL 36832. Phone: 334-844-7262. Email: [Heather.Walz@agi.alabama.gov](mailto:Heather.Walz@agi.alabama.gov)